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SUBJECT: 2001 INCSR CHAPTER ON NIGERIA

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The following is post,s INCSR submission.

Nigeria

[1](#)I. Summary

[1](#)1. Nigeria remains a hub of narcotics trafficking and money laundering activity. Nigerian organized criminal groups dominate the African drug trade, and transport narcotics to markets in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Africa. Some of these criminal organizations are engaged in Advance-Fee Fraud, commonly referred to as "419 Fraud" and other forms of defrauding U.S. citizens and businesses. Years of military rule and an associated economic decline contributed significantly to the expansion of drug-trafficking and criminality in Nigeria. The resulting severe unemployment and widespread corruption provided both an incentive and a mechanism for Nigerian criminal groups to capitalize on Nigeria's central location along the major drug routes and access global narcotics markets. Southeast and Southwest Asian heroin smuggled via Nigeria accounts for a significant portion of the heroin imported into the United States. Nigerian criminal elements operating in South America transship cocaine through Nigeria on to Europe, Asia, and Africa, mainly South Africa. Nigerian-grown marijuana is exported to neighboring West African countries and to Europe, but not in significant quantities to the U.S. Aside from marijuana, Nigeria does not produce any of the drugs that are trafficked by its nationals.

[1](#)2. During the past year, President Obasanjo,s public denunciation of this criminal activity has been matched by a number of steps he has taken to tackle drug-trafficking, money-laundering and other organized criminal activities while he seeks to improve the image of Nigeria abroad. Funding of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) --Nigeria,s sole drug control agency -- increased 200 percent while the NDLEA,s dynamic leadership instituted a number of internal reforms that have improved the professionalism of the 3,500 men and women in the NDLEA.

[1](#)3. Nigeria,s effort to strengthen its commitment to drug control and the fight against organized crime suffered a tragic setback when Chief Bola Ige, the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, was assassinated on December 23. Chief Ige, Nigeria,s top law enforcement official and the official responsible for the NDLEA,s operations, was the catalyst behind many of the new anti-drug and anti-crime initiatives in the past year. President Obasanjo has pledged to find and prosecute those behind the assassination and to sustain the reforms started by the late Attorney General.

[1](#)4. A campaign to root out corruption started shortly after President Obasanjo's inauguration in May 1999 has this year been sustained and strengthened. In late 2001, the Anti-Corruption Commission hired 93 investigators, prosecutors and administrators) its first batch of dedicated personnel. The Obasanjo Administration supports the domestically controversial 1990 NDLEA Act Number 33. This law dictates that Nigerians convicted of drug offenses abroad will be arrested upon their deportation back to Nigeria, and, if convicted, will be liable for a minimum of 5 years additional imprisonment for harming the reputation of Nigeria. But corruption embedded over 16 years of continuous military rule continues to be a problem for an Obasanjo Administration committed to rooting it out.

[1](#)5. Over the years, Nigerian law enforcement agencies have had sporadic success in combating the various elements of the drug trade. In 2001, however, the Obasanjo government took a number of steps to strengthen the capacity of these agencies

to deal with organized crime. Legislation was introduced into the National Assembly to improve the existing 1995 Money Laundering Act that only criminalizes money laundering related to drug trafficking. Following the June 2001 designation of Nigeria by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) as a &Non-Cooperative Country or Territory,⁸ the Nigerian Government acted quickly to respond to the FATF by designing a new Anti-Terrorism, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission that will serve as a strong centralized authority to coordinate anti-money laundering efforts, specifically to combat the financial activities of narcotics traffickers. Legislation creating this new commission has been drafted and is expected to be submitted and approved by the National Assembly within the first quarter of 2002. There have been few arrests and no convictions under the existing Money Laundering Decree. In addition, asset forfeiture has not been a successful deterrent against money laundering or drug trafficking activities. Interdiction and enforcement efforts are complicated by an absence of inter-agency cooperation and a serious lack of resources. Years of neglect by successive military regimes left the law enforcement community demoralized and ill-equipped to deal with sophisticated, international criminal networks. This problem is compounded by pervasive corruption throughout all levels of government. There have been a few arrests of major traffickers; however, it can take years for a case to actually come to trial and no mechanism exists to track cases. Cases are often lost within Nigeria's judicial system. Nigeria did take a significant step in November 2000 by transferring into U.S. custody four fugitives wanted on serious narcotics and narcotics-related charges, including two who are on the President's List of Significant Foreign Narcotics Traffickers under the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act. Nigeria is a party to the 1988 UN Drug Convention.

II. Status of Country

16. Nigeria produces no precursor chemicals or drugs that have a significant effect on the United States. However, Nigeria remains a major drug-trafficking transit country and Nigerian criminal elements operate global networks.

17. The law enforcement agency with sole responsibility for combating narcotics trafficking and drug abuse is the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA). The NDLEA was established in 1989, and works alongside Nigerian Customs, the State Security Service, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), the National Police, and the Nigerian Immigration Service at the various ports of entry. NDLEA's most successful interdictions have taken place at Nigeria's international airports. The agency has successfully apprehended individual drug couriers transiting these airports and some of the drug traffickers sponsoring these couriers. An improved interdiction effort at the Lagos international airport during 2001 has forced smugglers to change tactics and ship contraband via Nigeria's five major seaports or across its porous land borders.

18. In late 2001, the NDLEA carried out an unprecedented seizure of 60 kilograms of cocaine at the Lagos seaport of Tin Can Island. Following this seizure, the President issued an executive decree granting the NDLEA full operational access to all of Nigeria's international sea ports. This move, long called for by the U.S. Government, is expected to greatly boost the NDLEA's interdiction success.

19. As specialists in moving narcotics and other contraband, Nigerian criminal organizations are heavily involved in corollary criminal activities such as document fabrication, illegal immigration, and financial fraud. Their ties to criminals in the United States, Europe, South America, Asia and South Africa are well documented. Nigerian poly-crime organizations exact significant financial and societal costs, especially among West African nations with limited resources for countering these organizations.

III. Country Actions Against Drugs in 2001

10. Policy Initiatives. In 2001 the democratically elected Obasanjo Administration introduced a number of new legislative and executive initiatives to combat narcotics trafficking and organized crime. These include: drafting new money laundering legislation; drafting of legislation to create an &Anti-Terrorism, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission⁸ to coordinate government-wide efforts against money laundering and financial crimes; granting expanded authority to the NDLEA to operate in the five major international seaports of Nigeria and the formation of an inter-agency anti-fraud committee to improve enforcement

efforts against financial fraud. The draft bill to create an Anti-Terrorism, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission shows the Government's commitment to meeting its international obligations, particularly the criteria of the FATF. Nigeria's counter-narcotics policy is based on the National Drug Control Master Plan (NDCMP), in place since 1998. This plan assigns responsibilities to various government ministries and agencies as well as NGOs and other interest groups. The master plan also outlines basic resource requirements and time-frames for the completion of objectives. Many of these goals have not yet been met.

11. Both chambers in the National Assembly have Narcotics Affairs Committees, which monitor the performance of the NDLEA and implementation of Nigeria's counter-narcotics strategy. While past frequent leadership changes at the NDLEA have impaired the agency's interdiction activities, the tenure since October 2000 of the current NDLEA Chairman, Alhaji Bello Lafiaji has given the agency new life and much greater direction. Chairman Lafiaji has declared an all-out offensive against drug trafficking and has instituted a number of internal reforms to improve the professionalism of NDLEA staff, including the retiring of officials suspected of corruption and improving training and benefits for NDLEA personnel. Chairman Lafiaji also has called for the harmonization of Nigeria's narcotics legislation and has sought increased international assistance for his agency. The NDLEA has also embarked upon a publicity campaign to combat narcotics trafficking and drug abuse by staging various contraband destruction events around the country.

12. Accomplishments. Nigeria's drug enforcement efforts improved substantially in 2001. With INL assistance, the NDLEA launched a more aggressive drug interdiction campaign at the Lagos international airport) long known as a major gateway for U.S.- and Europe-bound narcotics. This effort coincided with the resumption of direct (nonstop) flights from Lagos to the U.S. in February, after a hiatus of eight years. The report of only one seizure made by U.S. authorities at the port of entry of the flight (New York's JFK airport) is evidence of greatly improved screening by the NDLEA in Lagos.

13. The Nigerian Government also improved its record of drug-related prosecutions. Using special drug courts, a more energetic effort by the NDLEA to prosecute drug traffickers efficiently and successfully produced over 2,000 convictions in calendar year 2001. In a notable November 2001 case, the NDLEA froze a bank account of 1.6 million naira that belongs to a suspected drug-trafficker and money-launderer.

14. The Government of Nigeria also pledged to design a mechanism to process U.S. extradition requests expeditiously while observing due process under Nigerian law and in accordance with the Nigerian constitution. This mechanism will include the creation of an exclusive extradition team of public prosecutors and the designation of a special court and a High Court judge dedicated to extradition cases. While extradition requests were formerly heard in any court, including lower magistrates, courts, the Government has now centralized the handling of all U.S. extradition requests in the Federal High Court of Abuja.

15. At the Government of Nigeria's initiative, a high level U.S.-Nigeria law enforcement dialogue was initiated in 2001. The first meeting of this semi-annual forum, the Bilateral Law Enforcement Committee, took place on November 9 in Washington D.C. and covered the full range of U.S. and Nigerian law enforcement interests: drug control; financial fraud; trafficking in persons; corruption; immigration crimes; police reform; extradition and money-laundering. The dialogue has already led to commitments by the Government of Nigeria to take significant steps towards mutually agreed goals by March 2002.

16. Law Enforcement Efforts. Nigerian counter-narcotics efforts primarily focus on the interdiction of couriers transiting Nigeria's air- and sea ports as well as a public campaign focused on destroying plots of cultivated marijuana throughout the country. Improved drug interdiction efforts at the Lagos airport and sea ports led to a 40 percent increase in drug seizures over 2000. 43 kilograms of heroin and 98 kilograms of cocaine were seized during 2001. This included a record seizure of 60 kilograms of cocaine at the Lagos sea port of Tin Can Island. The number of drug related arrests increased to 3,592 and 2,041 drug convictions were handed down during the last year. Some major narcotics-smugglers and their networks continue to elude arrest and prosecution, even though the NDLEA recently began an intensified effort to investigate major international drug

traffickers operating in Nigeria, in cooperation with the DEA. Attempts by NDLEA to arrest and prosecute major traffickers and their associates often fail in Nigeria's weak judicial system, which is subject to intimidation and corruption. Asset seizures from narcotics-traffickers and money-launderers, while permitted under Nigerian law, have never systematically been utilized as an enforcement tool, but some convicted traffickers have had their assets forfeited over the years. However, the number of traffickers so far penalized remains small.

17. Corruption. Corruption is a pervasive problem in Nigerian society. Estimated unemployment is over 25 percent. Civil servants, salaries are low. In addition, salaries are frequently months in arrears, compounding the corruption problem. After its inauguration, the Obasanjo Administration embarked on a public anti-corruption campaign. Legislation was enacted and an Anti-Corruption Commission was formed. This commission began prosecution of several minor officials on corruption charges, and has initiated investigations into allegations of high-level corruption have been launched. The commission also has hired its first dedicated staff of prosecutors, investigators and administrators. The U.S. Government is providing the Commission with training and technical assistance for its new staff. A commission also was established to review government contracts awarded by past Administrations. The Obasanjo Administration, however, has made limited progress towards transparency and openness in its contracting and decision-making process. A number of criminal cases, launched by the Anti-Corruption Commission against public officials accused of bribe-taking, are moving forward and are expected to conclude early in 2002, although an appeal to the Supreme Court challenging the Commission's constitutionality has delayed these cases. Meanwhile, corruption remains a significant obstacle to counter-narcotics efforts, especially in the judicial process. While the NDLEA has attempted to purge its ranks of officers suspected of corrupt practices, a fear of corruption hampers inter-agency cooperation as agencies are often distrustful and unwilling to share information.

18. Agreements and Treaties. Nigeria is a party to the 1988 UN Drug Convention, the 1961 UN Single Convention and its 1972 Protocol, the 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances; and the 2000 UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime. The 1931 U.S.-UK Extradition Treaty, which was made applicable to Nigeria in 1935, is the legal basis for pending U.S. extradition requests. Nigeria is a party to the World Customs Organization's Nairobi Convention, Annex on Assistance in Narcotics Cases.

19. Cultivation and Production. Cannabis is the only illicit drug produced in any significant quantity in Nigeria. The drug is produced in all 36 states. Major cultivation takes place in central and northern Nigeria and in Delta and Ondo states in the south. Marijuana, or "Indian Hemp" as it is locally known, is sold in Nigeria and exported throughout West Africa and into Europe. To date, there is no evidence of significant marijuana imports from Nigeria into the United States. The NDLEA has been engaged in an active eradication campaign. Through November 2001, the NDLEA claimed cannabis seizures in excess of 290 metric tons and eradication of cannabis plants in the field in excess of 270 hectares. In August 2001, the NDLEA invited dignitaries and the diplomatic corps to a narcotics destruction ceremony in Lagos to highlight the agency's seizures of narcotics throughout the country.

20. Drug Flow/Transit. Nigeria is a major staging point for Southeast and Southwest Asian heroin smuggled to Europe and the United States and for South American cocaine transported to Europe. While Nigeria remains Africa's drug transit hub, there are indications that the preferred methods of trans-shipment have changed. Improvement of the overall security posture at Murtala Mohammed International Airport has forced drug traffickers to ship by sea from Nigerian seaports, concealing large quantities of contraband in shipping containers, or use other West African airport with laxer security controls.

21. Demand Reduction. Local production and use of marijuana have been a problem in Nigeria for some time; however, according to the NDLEA and NGOs, the abuse of harder drugs (e.g., cocaine, heroin) is on the rise. Heroin and cocaine are readily available in many of Nigeria's larger cities. Law enforcement officials admit that Nigeria remains a major narcotics trans-shipment point, but some officials deny that domestic drug abuse is on the rise. U.S. officials and training instructors find that many Nigerian officials do not understand that by serving as a transit point, Nigeria may itself begin to suffer significant drug abuse problems. The

NDLEA continues to expand its anti-drug clubs at Nigerian universities and distribute anti-drug literature. The NDLEA also has instituted a teacher's manual for primary and secondary schools, which offers guidance on teaching students about drug abuse.

IV. U.S. Policy Initiatives and Programs

22. Policy Initiatives. U.S.-Nigerian counter-narcotics cooperation focuses on interdiction efforts at major international entry points and on professionalizing the NDLEA and other law enforcement agencies. U.S. training and material assistance have continued, with the NDLEA as the primary target. The U.S. DEA office deals with a small group of NDLEA representatives to lessen the chance of compromise by corrupt individuals. USG working-level representatives enjoy good access to their counterparts and there is an evident desire on both sides to strengthen these relationships. The new NDLEA Chairman appears committed to meeting agency goals and improving the morale of NDLEA officers. Bilateral discussions during the last year on the need to reform Nigeria's Police have presaged the planned start in 2002 of a USG police reform program. The Nigerian Government has reviewed plans for reform and U.S. assistance agencies have prepared their own suggestions for ways to proceed, however, the task will be formidable as the police lack so much in the way of equipment, and their morale has suffered over the years as the situation deteriorated. For example, salaries are low and frequently paid months late.

23. Bilateral Accomplishments. In 2001, at the request of the GON, a U.S.-Nigeria Bilateral Law Enforcement Committee was created to advance mutual drug and crime control issues. Co-chaired by Nigeria's Attorney General and the State Department's Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, the group met for the first time in November 2001 in Washington. This meeting produced a joint declaration containing Government of Nigeria pledges to: a) introduce new money laundering legislation; b) begin investigation of at least one major drug trafficker in cooperation with DEA; c) draft and introduce to the National Assembly new legislation allowing for the civil forfeiture of assets derived from organized crime or drug-trafficking; d) commence extradition proceedings of individuals wanted for prosecution by the U.S. Government; and e) boost resources for the new Anti-Corruption Commission. Meanwhile, The U.S. DEA office in Nigeria continues to work with the NDLEA on expanding their relationship. New INL assistance to the NDLEA allowed for a stronger interdiction posture at the Lagos international airport) Nigeria's largest drug transit point) forcing many traffickers to re-route drug shipments through neighboring countries. INL assistance has also been provided to the Nigerian Police Force to improve investigations and enforcement operations against criminal organizations involved in advance fee or 4198 fraud, which largely targets American citizens and businesses.

24. The Road Ahead. The U.S.-Nigerian relationship has improved significantly with the reintroduction of democratic government in Nigeria. During the past year President Obasanjo demonstrated his commitment to the international drug fight by increasing the NDLEA's budget by 200 percent and giving this agency long-awaited operational access to Nigeria's sea ports. Nevertheless, much remains to be done in the area of drug control and the Federal Government needs to address key weaknesses, including the processing of U.S. extradition requests and the local prosecution of major drug traffickers. As noted elsewhere in this report, the narcotics and crime problems in Nigeria are deeply rooted in Nigeria's present governmental system, and in Nigerian society. It will require strong political will and continued international assistance for any Nigerian government to confront these difficult issues and bring about meaningful change.

25. The U.S. government is working to aid Nigeria in its counter-narcotics efforts. One area of prime concern is the judiciary. Law enforcement efforts are often stymied by the slow pace of the judicial system, which can be attributed to both intimidation and corruption of the judiciary by criminal organizations. The U.S. Agency for International Development has implemented a "Rule of Law" program with the Nigerian government to help strengthen and professionalize the judiciary. Through the framework of the new Bilateral Law Enforcement Committee, the Nigerian Government has committed itself to the establishment of a reliable extradition process that will allow extradition requests to be heard expeditiously and fairly. Many U.S. extradition requests for narcotics-traffickers have been outstanding for years.

26. The U.S. Government is also concerned about fundamental problems with the Nigerian Police Force and other law

enforcement agencies. While President Obasanjo and his advisors are aware of the need to modernize the Nigerian Police as a key pillar of democratic consolidation, little has been done to address key issues such as low salaries for police and other law enforcement personnel. Salary arrears also remain a problem. The Government of Nigeria needs to demonstrate a commitment of its own resources to the fight against narcotics trafficking and transnational crime in order to strengthen its case for additional foreign donor assistance.

127. The U.S. government provided training for NDLEA personnel on general investigative techniques and sent two NDLEA officers responsible for drug interdiction at the Lagos international airport to a specialized training course in the United States. Since narcotics-trafficking and financial crimes are closely linked, the Government of Nigeria must also strengthen and utilize its asset forfeiture legislation, already in place. In addition, Nigeria must work to bring its money-laundering laws into compliance with the FATF 40 recommendations and work to regulate its banking industry.

128. The U.S. government will continue to actively engage Nigeria on the issue of counter-narcotics and money laundering. There have been incremental successes, but long-term progress will only come about through the continuation of serious dialogue and cooperation, and a willingness on the part of Nigeria's government to confront difficult issues. The underlying institutional and societal factors that contribute to narcotics-trafficking and money-laundering activities in Nigeria are deep-seated and require comprehensive, long-term solutions.

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Money Laundering Chapter:

129. Nigeria (Primary). The Federal Republic of Nigeria is a hub of money laundering and financial crime activity, not only for the West African sub-region but also increasingly for the entire continent. It is the most populous country in Africa, dominating the West African sub-region economically and militarily. Nigeria is also Africa's most significant narcotics trans-shipment point. Nigerian criminal organizations utilize sophisticated global networks to ship narcotics via Nigeria to markets in the United States, Europe, and other African countries. Nigerian money-laundering is directly linked to narcotics-trafficking as well as corollary activities such as document, immigration, and financial fraud. Though the execution and coordination of these criminal activities may be taking place increasingly outside of Nigeria, the majority of the proceeds from these illegal activities continues to be repatriated to Nigeria and these funds are often used to fund subsequent criminal operations.

130. The combination of narcotics-trafficking and money laundering, and the fact that Nigeria has failed to adequately address corruption among law enforcement, customs, immigration, other government agencies, and within society-at-large, makes it unusually difficult to have an effective anti-money laundering program.

131. In June 2001 the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) declared Nigeria, along with 15 other countries, a Non-Cooperating Country or Territory⁸ (NCCT) for its failure to address FATF concerns on international money laundering.

132. Nigeria is notorious for the various financial schemes that originate there. Nigerian Advance Fee Fraud, commonly known as "Four-one-nine Scams," (419 is the reference to fraud in Nigeria's criminal code) has become highly lucrative for criminal enterprises. With the help of phone books, business directories, and email lists, Nigerian criminal organizations fax, mail, and email targeted businesses and individuals around the world with enticing "get rich quick" offers. The proposed schemes take various forms, for example, by promising a transfer of funds "from an over-invoiced contract" in Nigeria to a target's bank account. The cash in question might be profit from a crude oil sale that a business person "needs help in transferring out of the country" or the disbursement of funds for a specific charity from the estate of a recently deceased individual. Often, these 419 letters and schemes are written on "official" letterhead stationary. An elaborate system may be utilized to provide bogus references. Advance Fee Fraud perpetrators may request bank account information to gauge the targeted

victim's level of trust and provide the impression that a funds transfer is imminent. All 419 Scams eventually request payment of a fee (or fees) so that the alleged transfer of funds can be facilitated. While actual monetary losses by US citizens are difficult to gauge -- many victims are reluctant to report such activity to law enforcement agencies -- conservative estimates place such losses by American citizens and businesses in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Substantial proof exists that narcotics traffickers have utilized 419 Scams to fund their illicit smuggling efforts.

33. The current anti-money laundering law, Money Laundering Decree No. 3 of 1995, criminalizes narcotics-based money laundering, but is useful only if the predicate offense is narcotics trafficking. It requires banks to identify customers, maintain records, and report large and suspicious transactions to the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN). It also provides for the seizure and forfeiture of drug-related assets, although forfeiture requires a conviction and thus is seldom effectively used. Enforcement of the legislation relies on the effective record keeping of banks, submissions of Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) and account holder identification. Enforcement of this banking oversight responsibility, which is shared by the CBN and the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA), has been weak and inconsistent because of lack of training, excessive bureaucracy, and corruption.

34. The NDLEA and the CBN's Money Laundering Surveillance Unit (MLSU) have the power to demand, obtain, and inspect the books and records of a financial institution to confirm compliance with the provisions of the money laundering decree. Yet, the effectiveness of this authority is hindered by weak record keeping and analysis of bank records, including account holder identification data, filing of SARs and information on bank management staff and affiliate overseas banks. These deficiencies were highlighted by the FATF in its declaration of Nigeria as a Non-Cooperative Country or Territory (NCCT) in June 2001. There have been no money laundering convictions.

35. In response to international concerns, particularly the NCCT status given Nigeria by the FATF, the GON has taken steps to revise the 1995 money laundering law and create a centralized unit under the Office of the Presidency to combat money laundering and financial crimes. It took the initiative in late 2001 to engage the FATF in a dialogue on how to improve Nigeria's money laundering control regime, including a GON-initiated meeting with the FATF's Africa and Middle East Review Group in Rome in December 2001. The Nigerian government has also opened up a high-level law enforcement exchange with the U.S. Government, covering a wide array of issues, including money laundering and financial crimes. This forum, the U.S.-Nigeria Law Enforcement Committee, first met in Washington in early November 2001. In 1998, the GON began cooperating with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service to identify and crack down on fraud operations through the mail. In addition, the U.S. Secret Service has maintained an office in the U.S. Consulate

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General in Lagos since 1995, and in June 2000, opened a separate office to assist in the effort to combat Advanced Fee Fraud and other illegal operations, including U.S. dollar counterfeiting operations. In May 1999, a decree was issued that, according to the NDLEA, altered the burden of proof in money laundering cases to facilitate prosecution.

36. Nigeria is a party to the 1988 UN Drug Convention, and in December 2000, signed the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

37. The steps taken to address the FATF's concerns are encouraging. Nigeria urgently needs to enact and implement the draft changes to its anti-money laundering law so that it can meet international standards and protect itself against financial crimes and money laundering. Nigeria also needs to demonstrate its ability to take action against corruption and fraud. In addition, Nigeria should move quickly to create a centralized financial intelligence unit, something that the proposed Anti-Terrorism, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission might incorporate, that would receive and analyze information and cooperate with foreign counterparts in money laundering investigations so that Nigeria can protect its financial system from widespread abuse by criminals and criminal organizations.

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Nigeria Statistics Table

Category . . . CY 1999 . . . CY 2000CY2001

Drug Seizures

Heroin (kilograms)	81.35	**	.56.60	43.59
Cocaine	15.64	. . . .	50.42	. . . .	98.47 NN
Marijuana . . . . .	.NA	. . . .	272,260	. . . .	293,022
Ephedrine	NA	. . . .	0	. . . .	116.00

Marijuana Eradication

Operation & Burn-the-Weed	8
Hectares . . . . .	. . . . .1,038 394
Kilograms destroyed	1,038,345 394,250

Prosecution

Drug ArrestsNA 2,385 3,592

Drug Convictions .NA 1,624 2,041

Drug Acquittals . NA 2 0

Notes

** 1999 heroin seizures included one single seizure of 60 kilograms made at the Kano airport
NN 2001 cocaine seizures include one single seizure of 60 kilograms made at the Lagos sea port of Tin Can Island .
Jeter